

In the two slug concavities recorded, the sow bug, *Porcellio scaber* Latreille, was abundant crawling beneath the slugs, while in the surrounding areas they were rare. It is quite possible that such an association enhances the survival rate of sow bug populations throughout the dry season typical of this region of California. If the above animal association is further confirmed it is probably one of temporary commensalism.

It is suggested that the California slug collectors make use of the two types of "signs," fecal masses and slime tracks, in locating these animals. During a dry spell if these "signs" but no slugs are observed, a return to the same region during a rain will generally bring success in collecting. Slug "signs" have often been observed in Redwood Canyon behind Mills College, California, during dry periods. By marking the areas and returning to them during rainy periods many collections have been made.

In lower Redwood Canyon "signs" of *Ariolimax columbianus* Gould have often been observed on exposed roots of the live oak, *Quercus agrifolia* Née and *Sequoia sempervirens* Endl. "Signs" have been observed beneath wild blackberry bushes and on oak leaves on the alluvial land at the canyon's mouth. During the rainy season the slug has been seen in abundance crawling on oak leaf humus (*Q. agrifolia* Née) in east Oakland, California.

FRANK COLLINS BAKER

(December 14, 1867 to May 7, 1942)

Frank Collins Baker, President of the American Malacological Union, died on May 7, 1942, after failure to recover from a major surgical operation. Ever since 1894 he had been recognized as a leading figure in the study of Mollusca in the Middle West. In addition, he has been a very active worker in the fields of paleontology, ecology, archeology and museum administration.

Born on December 14, 1867, of pioneer colonial stock, he recalled shells among his earliest memories in the home of a seafaring grandfather. Through most of his life, shells and the animals which produced them continued to command his in-

terest. For the students of Mollusca, his continuous stream of smaller papers, from 1889 onward, was punctuated periodically by outstanding contributions such as his two volumes on the Mollusca of the Chicago Area (1898 and 1902); his monograph on the Lymnaeidae (1911); his studies on the Mollusca of Oneida Lake (1916-18); his *Life of the Pleistocene* (1920); his two monumental volumes on the Mollusca of Wisconsin (1928); and his *Fieldbook of Illinois Land Snails* (1939). He had completed the typed copy and drawings for one volume of what he considered as his *magnum opus*, a proposed two volume treatise on Planorbidae, based on an exhaustive analysis of comparative morphological details. He was in the midst of writing the second volume when the hand of death held him.

His early training he had secured at Brown University and as Jesup Scholar in the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. Like so very many of the prominent museum specialists of an earlier generation, he secured broad experience in the Ward Natural Science Establishment of Rochester, New York. On June 12, 1892, he married Lillian May Hall, who died in 1934.

Baker came West to install the Ward display of Invertebrates for the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago and remained in the mid-west for the rest of his life except for the two years (1915-17) when he carried on ecological researches for the New York State College of Forestry.

In 1894, he became Curator of Zoology in the newly founded Field Columbian Museum. Later in that same year he accepted the post as Curator of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, an institution which he served faithfully and ably for 21 years. During this period, he made numerous contributions to museum methods and administration and carried on a continuous program of researches in the Academy where the names of men like Kennicott and Stimpson stood as background for his labors.

In 1918, he assumed the position as Curator of the Museum of Natural History in the University of Illinois, which he held until his retirement as Curator Emeritus in 1939. Retirement did not mark the close of his active career, for he continued to work on his research until the day he was stricken.

Through his entire career he has always held appointments wherein museum work and research were his direct obligations.



FRANK COLLINS BAKER